

Voice of the Valley

Colne Valley Male Voice Choir Newsletter

July 2015 Edition

Brilliant Concert at Holmfirth

The Choir and Hade Edge Brass band got together in mid June to put on a terrific concert at Holmfirth's Civic Hall – a new venue for the Choir in recent years - and quite a success it was, too.



Choir and Band sort out performance details in pre-concert rehearsal.

Hade Edge Band, up-and-coming under its current conductor, **Jonathan Beatty**, played from the stage whilst the Choir stood in front on the floor below – a good arrangement to balance the sounds and the volumes of the two ensembles for the items where Band and Choir performed together: beginning with the rousing '**Battle Hymn of the Republic**', later the very moving Michael Kamen '**Requiem for a Soldier**' and the finale, '**You'll Never Walk Alone.**'





In between came separate spots by both Band and Choir. One Highlight was **Sally Crago's** cornet playing in a new and specially written piece, 'First Light', which evoked dawn over the Grand Canyon.



All told the evening provided a rich and varied menu of musical entertainment, which many in the appreciative audience hope we will repeat someday soon.

Farewell Roger Slater



Roger Slater, painter & decorator, soldier, entertainer and, above all, music-lover died the other week, just shy of his 77th birthday.

Friends, family, Army Veterans and Choir members gathered in great numbers to give him a good send-off at Linthwaite Church on June 23rd.

Younger brother, Barry, talked about his childhood with Roger in Primrose Hill and the family's move to the Colne Valley – an area Roger scarcely left. "One of the best things Roger did for me," said baritone Barry, "Was to introduce me to Colne Valley Male Voice Choir".

First Tenor and dedicated member of the Choir for well over thirty years, one of his last performances was at last July's "Concert on the Hill" but, sadly, he isn't going to make it this year.

Roger, who had been suffering from poor health for many months, was too frail to join in the last Christmas Concert at the Town Hall but retained sufficient enthusiasm to join in as part of the audience.

Roger Slater

11th June 1938 ~ 9th June 2015

He's seen below in better days as part of the award-winning Choir on our 2007 trip to the competition in Cornwall. (Back row in the sun-glasses)

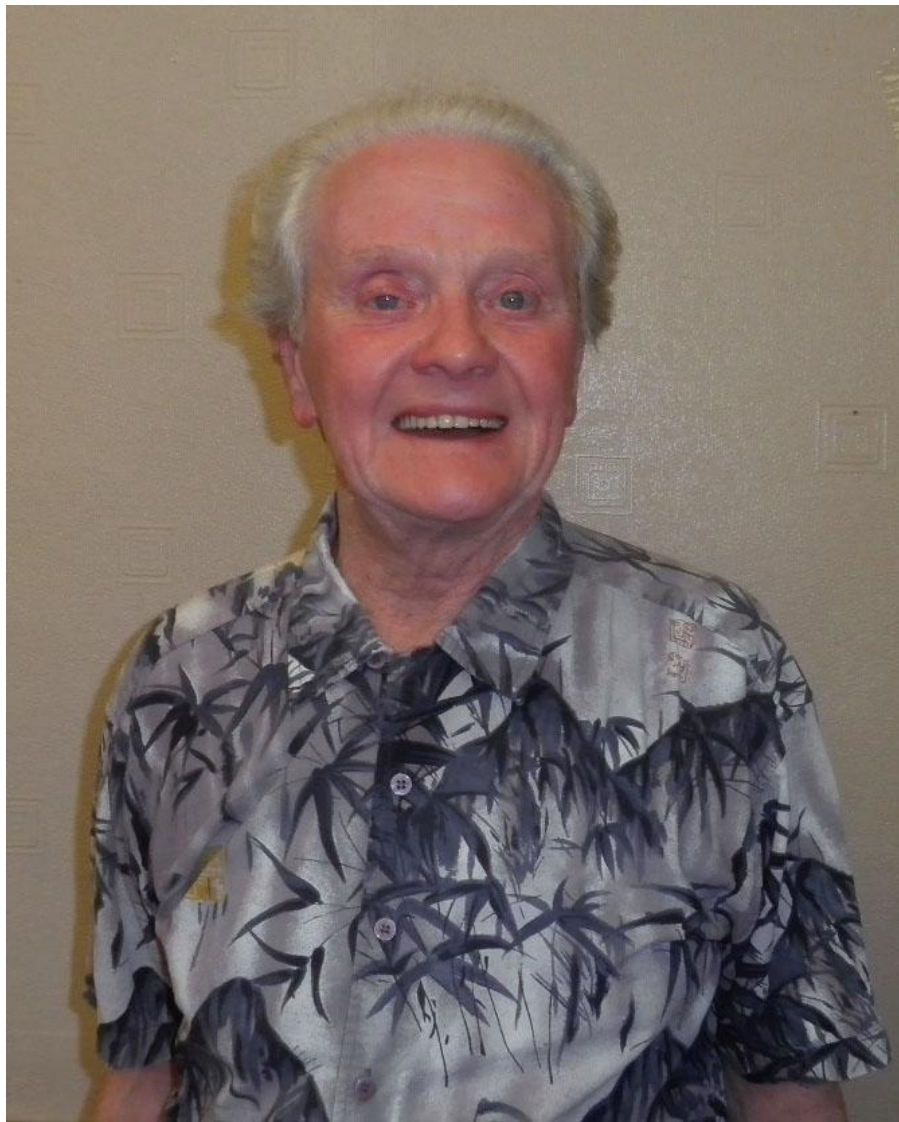


Concert on the Hill

That open-air spectacular, '**Concert on the Hill**' is our next performance date. We share the stage with old favourites, **Lindley Band**, soprano, **Julia Garbutt**, with our brothers from **Honley Male Voice Choir** and the fabulous **Lindley Junior School Choir**. It's a night of sing-along fun at Salendine Nook, a rich and varied programme of popular music, culminating, as the sun sets over the stand with '**Last Night of the Proms**' music. Bring a couple of chairs, a picnic and a Union Jack to wave to '**Rule Britannia**' and '**Land of Hope and Glory**' as the fireworks light up the night sky.



For details of our summer engagements see our website: colnevalleymvc.org.uk



Ken Wins Again

For the second year running Ken Farr takes the prize for best attendance.

This means that Ken, a first tenor, has performed in every concert, home and away, and not missed a single Choir rehearsal for well over two years.

That's 100% on well over a 100 rehearsals and participation in more the 25 concerts. – What a trooper!

Well done, Ken.

Seaside Specials

After 'Concert on the Hill', our next two concerts are both at the seaside.

Poulton le Fylde comes after our return to Scarborough on August 22nd.

See our website for details -

See it anyway, it's good!

colnevalleymvc.org.uk



Second tenor, Brian and wife, Burnice, celebrate their Diamond Wedding

Recently retired from singing, long-standing Choir-member and Second Tenor, Brian Fleming is rejoicing in 60 years of marriage to Burnice.



Brian, it is reported, clearly thought a certain young lady was quite a catch when he spotted her outside a Huddersfield fish shop. He bought a bag of chips to share and went on to marry her

This is Brian and Burnice on their wedding day, way back in 1955 at St Barnabas' Church in Crosland Moor on May 14, 1955.

VotV wishes them many more happy years together.

And another thing.....



Just in case readers new readers get the impression that the Colne Valley Male Voice Choir is full of old men, here's a picture of a young man, who has been in the Choir for a couple of years now. –

We do have a few!

This young man is Tom Law who occasionally does a solo spot at Choir Concerts singing to his own acoustic guitar accompaniment

The Choir is always looking out for recruits – and if you've got your own teeth so much the better!

And here's another young chap, James Cooke - scarcely into his thirties.

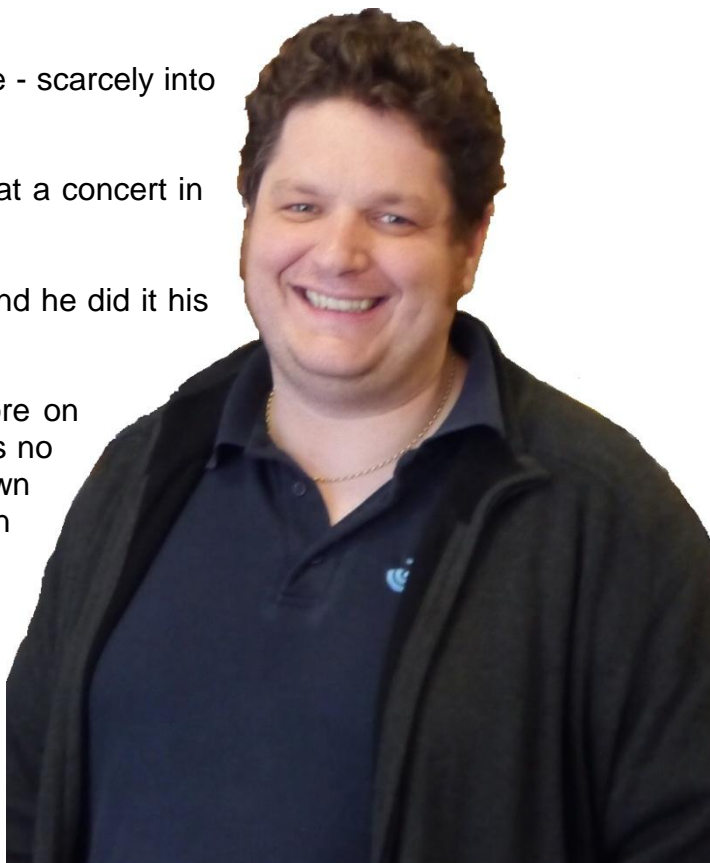
James took his first Choir solo the other day at a concert in Slaithwaite.

He sang a medley of Frank Sinatra tunes – and he did it his way!

James runs the 'Huddersfield Electronics' store on Cross Church Street in Huddersfield, so it was no surprise to see him organising his own accompaniment via a range of computer driven modules.

It went down a storm with Choir and audience alike

I can see James being in demand in many a future performance!



Voice of the *Valley*

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There are now online readers of Voice of the Valley all over the world.

